



# THE GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 2, APRIL 2009

## MEET NEWLY-ELECTED HAMILTON COUNTY RECORDER, WAYNE COATES

BY BEV BREITENSTEIN

How can the County Recorder's Office help in your search for information about your ancestors? What documents are maintained there? To find out, join us at our May meeting to meet newly-elected Hamilton County Recorder, Mr. Wayne Coates. Mr. Coates will be happy to answer questions concerning his office and/or any documents maintained there. For information or questions, please call the Chapter at 513-956-7078.

The May meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, Saturday, May 16, 2009 in the Huenefeld Tower Room at the Main Library, 800 Vine St.

## SAVE THE DATE! FFHC AND SETTLERS & BUILDERS OCTOBER 17

BY MARY THOLKING

The First Families of Hamilton County (FFHC) and Settlers & Builders Luncheon will be held October 17 at the Netherland Plaza. A reservation form will be included in a later edition.

The program will include honoring the new members and Mr. Ted Gantz, a Cincinnati native and graduate of the Art Academy of Cincinnati. A travel scholarship awarded after graduation took him to Florence and the beginning of a lifelong relationship with Tuscany and its capital. Gantz later earned an MA in Art History from the University of Cincinnati. His principal collecting activities are now focused on 19th century Cincinnati sculptors. He will share his knowledge of Cincinnati and Hiram Powers around 1818. Mark your calendar and save the date.

## OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SELECTS HAMILTON COUNTY BOOKS FOR AWARDS

BY BARBARA GARGIULO

The following publications by the Hamilton County Chapter, OGS, have been selected for an award at the OGS Conference at the Sawmill Creek Resort on Saturday, April 4, 2009:

LIDA FLINT HARSHMAN AWARD for the *Hamilton Co., OH, Burial Records, Volumes 15, 16, 17, and 18.*



Also, an award was selected for the work by the Hamilton County Chapter's president, Kenny Burck, for the following:

SALMON P. CHASE AWARD for his *Marriages Recorded in Hamilton Co., OH, 1870-1884, 1885-1889, 1890-1894, and 1895-1899.*

And another award was selected for Little Miami Publishing's author Lois J. Lambert for the following:

OLIVER HAZARD PERRY AWARD for her *Heroes of the Western Theater: Thirty-Third Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry.*

Congratulations to all the recipients of the 2009 OGS Awards.

## LIBRARY HOT TIP

Jean Morrison sent in the hot tip of the quarter. She wanted everyone to know that the parking meters around the library are now free after 5 p.m., not 6 p.m. as in the past.

# President's Message

BY KENNY BÜRCK

*(Kenny's contact information...Home: 513-851-9549,  
Email: kburck@juno.com)*

I am happy to announce that an educational grant was received from Duke Energy (the local supplier of gas and electric) in the amount of \$1000.00. This money is used to help bring our members and other attendees many quality speakers from outside the Greater Cincinnati area throughout the year. Last year an additional \$1000.00 grant was received for purchasing duplicating equipment that is being used for a variety of projects. To date this is a total of \$10,444.16 of grant money received by Duke Energy (or its former names, The Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company or Cinergy). We thank Duke Energy for their generous donations in providing wonderful educational opportunities to many of their customers. We also thank those Chapter members for their efforts to apply for the grants.

Each year the Chapter provides a list of local researchers who are willing (for a fee) to perform local research. This may be for out-of-town members who may not be able to come to Hamilton County or the surrounding areas to do their own research or perhaps a local person with a problem they need help to solve. In the last few years the number of researchers listed has been declining due to deaths or other factors. This year the list has grown by five new researchers or translators. The list is on our website at [hcgsohio.org](http://hcgsohio.org) or you may write or email to get the list. Each researcher has 40 words to convince you they are the right match for your research needs. The costs vary and you need to contact the researchers individually to negotiate a price and their availability.

Some day all genealogists are going to "go home" to meet their ancestors. It is a good idea to think about what might happen to your years of genealogical research and what the value of that research may mean to those you leave behind. Recently, one of our committee chairs passed on. Before anyone on the Board was aware of the death, some Chapter papers were discarded by relatives having no idea of their value. My sons' grandfather died recently and I personally witnessed how time constraints and other factors influenced how many personal papers and other items were discarded or sold without much consideration as to their value or importance. It was a real eye opener to me. I have attended genealogical conferences where presenters gave sessions on how to prepare for this eventuality.

The most important thing is to consider what will happen to all of your personal items. For many years I have had a Last Will & Testament that has stated that I had a concern about my genealogical research materials and my desire that my executor/executrix make an effort to keep the collection together and to find a home for it. Sometimes the Hamilton County Chapter or I receive a phone call from a family asking what they can do with a genealogy collection of a loved one. The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County will not take it, nor will many other places. I have found that the Ohio Genealogical Society may take it, if there is some kind of order, but the records would be a long way from Cincinnati. One thing that helps greatly is for a willing family member (at least out of respect for your years of dedicated work) to keep the materials. If you have all of your information sorted in some type of file cabinets or containers, the genealogy materials can at least be stored while someone attempts to find a home for it. A repository may also be more willing to take well organized material.

After years of planning to do it and 40 years of research, I finally put together my first book on a part of my family history. It took me a year to sort through all my materials and create the book and have it published. Now many of my BURCK family members have had the opportunity to preserve some of their heritage by purchasing, at cost, this book. The book was well received and appreciated. I am working on my next book now for another part of my family. But even if you can't publish a book, perhaps you can less expensively put together some three-ring binders of the essence of your work and place it with interested family members or in a genealogy library. For example, The Ohio Genealogical Society takes 3-ring binders of your family history and the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, IN will take anything that looks like a family history book manuscript and will bind it into a book. If you send them two copies, they will bind an additional copy and send it back to you. See their website or write to them for the details. What a pity and a waste of effort not to make some plans for your years of effort to preserve your family information.

Spring is here and it's time to get out in a cemetery or plan a spring or summer genealogy road trip. Happy Hunting!

## THE GAZETTE

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Published Quarterly

Publisher  
Hamilton County Ohio  
Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 15865  
Cincinnati, OH 45215-0865  
[www.hcgsohio.org](http://www.hcgsohio.org)

# Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BY PATRICIA VAN SKAIK, MANAGER,  
GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT

## CHAPTER MEMBERS' GENEROSITY

Chapter members demonstrated their generosity and commitment to genealogy by making the largest contribution to the Abell Fund since its inception twenty years ago. The Chapter collected \$1585. In today's financial environment where funds are tight, contributions such as these are more important than ever to insure the continued excellence of the genealogy collection. The Genealogy and Local History Department is grateful to the Chapter, who orchestrated the gift by sending contribution slips out with renewal notices, and the individuals who donated, as well as the fund's namesake, Richard Abell, who had the foresight to recommend the establishment of the trust to support Ohio research.

## DIGITIZED BOOKS FROM CATALOG APPEARING ON THE VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Many genealogists search the online catalog before visiting the library to expedite precious research time. Now the books may also be available online as the Virtual Library continues to add books from our collection. When checking the catalog from our website, [www.cincinnati.org](http://www.cincinnati.org), the words "electronic resource" indicate that the book is available online and fully searchable by clicking on "url."

In 2008, members from the Chapter's Make a Difference Day project identified titles and frequency of occurrences of citations from the department's last card catalog, the "Local History Index". One of these sources, *Cincinnati, the Queen City: A Newspaper Reference Book*, published in 1914 by the Cuvier Press Club, contains references to many prominent Cincinnati citizens, as well as photographs and histories of companies where many Cincinnatians worked. This book is now available in the Virtual Library.

The Virtual Library also contains genealogy books where the Library does not own a paper copy. The Lawrenceburg (Indiana) Public Library loaned us their 3 ring binder containing the Dearborn County Obituary Index with marriage notices and obituaries from newspaper

abstracts. This benefited both the Lawrenceburg Library that now has a digitized copy of their index and Cincinnati genealogists that can view the resource directly from our site.

## NEW ACQUISITIONS

While the Virtual Library concentrates on rare and often one-of-a kind resources, we continue to purchase current publications of genealogy resources on paper and microfilm. Late in 2008, we received large shipments of materials that we ordered earlier in the year. In addition to purchasing all new genealogy books for Ohio, courtesy of the Abell fund, we significantly enhanced our strong Virginia and Maryland collection, and filled in gaps from across the country. Watch upcoming issues of *The Tracer* for complete listings. These books have been added to the open shelves in the Genealogy and Local History Department for easy browsing. In anticipation of the release of the 1940 census in 2012 we added 156 reels of 1940era city directories from across the U.S.

## LOCAL CHURCH AND CEMETERY RECORDS

Hamilton County church and cemetery records are located in a number of places in the department, based on format, making it a confusing task to determine coverage. We have created a master list of these records, including books, microfilm, grave registration and online records, and their locations, making it a one step process to identify a church or cemetery and go to the materials. Ask to see a copy at the reference desk.

## NEW EXPERTS IN THE GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT (G&LH)

Two G&LH librarians, new to genealogy only a year ago, presented genealogy programs at the Ohio Genealogy Conference in early April. Chris Smith, a local history expert, presented "Hidden Genealogy in Local History Sources." Sara Curtis drew on her experience as a beginner to create a case study, "Who's Priscilla? And Why is Her Name in My Mother's Wedding Band?" Both have rapidly moved beyond the beginner status.

## PROGRAMS

In February and March the Chapter and the Library collaborated on two programs by bringing African American expert Tim Pinnick from Illinois and Irish expert Steve Myers from Indiana to Cincinnati. Both programs were well received and attended. Spring classes taught by Karen Everett and co-sponsored by G&LH begin in May at three branch locations. See calendar for details. We also continue to offer orientations to the genealogy collection the first Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. It is a great way to become acquainted or re-introduced to our resources.



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Complete calendar available at: <http://hcgsohio.org/calendar2008.shtml>

Saturday, April 18	<b>ANNUAL CHAPTER SEMINAR</b>	JOHN PHILIP COLLETTA, PH.D	LLANFAIR RETIREMENT CENTER, 1701 LLANFAIR AVE., COLLEGE HILL
FIRST SATURDAY, MAY 2, SATURDAY JUNE 6, 10 AM	ORIENTATION AND TOUR OF GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT - MEET AT THE 3RD FLOOR DESK; NO RESERVATION REQUIRED.	LIBRARIANS	GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY DEPT. MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET
SATURDAY, MAY 16 10:00 AM	"HOW CAN THE COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE HELP IN YOUR SEARCH FOR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR ANCESTORS?"	<b>WAYNE COATES</b> <b>HAMILTON COUNTY</b> <b>RECORDER</b>	HUENEFELD TOWER ROOM MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE ST.
TUESDAY, MAY 19 7:00 PM	<b>DISCOVERING THE MISSING PUZZLE PIECES</b>	KAREN EVERETT - EDUCATION DIRECTOR	ANDERSON TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY 7450 STATE Rd. 513-369-6030
Thursday, May 28 6 :00 PM	<b>DISCOVERING THE MISSING PUZZLE PIECES</b>	KAREN EVERETT - EDUCATION DIRECTOR	BOND HILL BRANCH LIBRARY 1740 LANGDON FARM ROAD AT JORDAN CROSSING 513-369-4445
Tuesday, June 2 7:00 PM	<b>DISCOVERING THE MISSING PUZZLE PIECES</b>	KAREN EVERETT - EDUCATION DIRECTOR	GROESBECK BRANCH LIBRARY 2994 W. GALBRAITH RD. 513-369-4454